

is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill just considered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GUTKNECHT). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

KIKA DE LA GARZA UNITED STATES BORDER STATION

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 994) to designate the U.S. border station located in Pharr, TX, as the "Kika de la Garza United States Border Station".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 997

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The United States border station located in Pharr, Texas, shall be known and designated as the "Kika de la Garza United States Border Station".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the border station referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Kika de la Garza United States Border Station".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California [Mr. KIM] and the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. TRAFICANT] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California [Mr. KIM].

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 994 designates the United States border station in Pharr, TX as the Kika de la Garza United States Border Station. Kika de la Garza was a distinguished Member of this body of 32 years. During his tenure he became one of the most outspoken advocates for U.S. agriculture. He was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1964. Since his first term in Congress he has been a member of the Committee on Agriculture, from 1981 to 1994. Kika de la Garza served as a chairman of this committee and successfully oversaw the passage of three omnibus farm bills in 1981, 1985, and 1990. He has also been successful in securing Federal funds to provide water and sewer services to depressed areas of Texas.

The distinguished gentleman from Texas retired from Congress at the end

of the 104th Congress. He was a respected colleague whose presence will be missed by many. The naming of the U.S. border station in his honor is a fitting tribute to Congressman Kika de la Garza. I support this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am very honored today to participate in the passing of this bill, being the sponsor of H.R. 994. Kika de la Garza was just a great man. I think the gentleman from California [Mr. KIM] has outlined many of his contributions. I would just like to say that he was the first Hispanic American to become a chair of a standing committee in this body, that being the Committee on Agriculture, and under his watchful eye legitimate substantive reform legislation for the USDA was crafted that made many needed and important changes, and those changes helped America's farmers and protected the public as well. That bill ultimately became law, and it made remarkable changes at USDA, and because of Chairman de la Garza's leadership and counsel the bill represented the right way to reinvent government, take government back to the people, and that is, I believe, the outstanding legacy of Kika de la Garza.

He never forgot the people that he served. Throughout those 32 years he fought tirelessly for his constituents, and he believed that all Americans and especially every farmer was his specific constituent, and how true he was.

We miss that smile, we miss his savvy, his common sense, and he always had a good word, and if he did not have a good word, he saved his word. I think everybody loved him.

I would just like to add here that the chairman, Kika de la Garza, was an amateur linguist and gourmet cook; that is right. And on many occasions he conversed with foreign dignitaries in their native tongue, to the surprise of people around the world at the scope and breath of his knowledge and intelligence. I am proud to have called him my friend, and I am honored to have sponsored this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Kansas [Mr. MORAN].

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman yielding this time to me. I apologize for being a few minutes late, but I rise today to join my colleagues in seeking to honor former Senator and Majority Leader Bob Dole by renaming the Federal Court House located in Kansas City, KS the Robert J. Dole United States Courthouse. I am extremely pleased to have the opportunity to officially rec-

ognize and pay tribute to my fellow Kansan.

Growing up in western Kansas, I like so many others viewed Bob Dole as more than just a war hero, which he truly was, more than an able statesman which also he truly was, and more than an articulate voice for the disabled and veterans, which he truly was. To me he is someone who exemplifies the heritage of Kansas, hard-working, determined and having the ability to overcome great adversity.

Like our State's motto which means "to the stars through difficulty," Bob Dole rose to be one of the most distinguished figures of this century and did so while overcoming tremendous obstacles. His ascendancy to greatness began from his family's humble beginnings in Russell, KS, to the war-ravaged mountains of northern Italy and ultimately to serve as majority leader of the United States. As a young man Bob Dole was a athlete and scholar, and like so many of his generation, went off without hesitation to defend his country. On a snow-covered mountain in northern Italy he suffered near fatal wounds. Later, after a difficult and prolonged recovery, he returned to Kansas to finish his education utilizing the GI bill and embarked upon a public career we pay tribute to here today.

Bob Dole's appreciation for his boyhood community and the State of Kansas is without question. As a reminder of where he came from and what shaped his character throughout his career, he kept a cigar box on his desk containing receipts of various contributions made by his neighbors and friends to help pay for his difficult recovery after the war. Those receipts might have been for a dollar, 5 cents, 15 cents, it did not matter. Collectively they not only aided his rehabilitation, but they helped to find his sense of purpose and determination to give back to a community that had given so much to him.

□ 1700

Many people have told me how years ago they would pass the Russell County Courthouse late at night and notice the second floor light on. It was the light of the young county prosecutor named Bob Dole. Though his injuries from the war required him to spend long, additional hours at work, he never complained and continued to work tirelessly.

Later he went on to serve Kansas's First Congressional District, which I am honored to serve, and then in the U.S. Senate. Senator Dole set an example while in both the House and Senate. It is his legacy that I must now attempt to follow.

Culminating his distinguished career in public service, Bob Dole was nominated by my party as the Presidential candidate for the 1996 election. In achieving all of his great accomplishments, Bob Dole served with character, candor, and a cunning wit that cannot be matched.

Mr. Speaker, renaming this Federal Court House as the Robert J. Dole United States Courthouse is a simple tribute to a great man and reflects our Nation's admiration and appreciation for his service. Kansans especially appreciate Senator Dole's dedication to them. His service will long be remembered.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Chairman, I would like to say a few words about H.R. 994, a bill to designate the border crossing station in Pharr, TX, in honor of Kika de la Garza. As you are aware, I am the sponsor of H.R. 994, a bill to honor my friend and former colleague, Kika de la Garza. He was the first Hispanic-American to become a chair of a standing committee, the Agriculture Committee.

Under his watchful eye, reform legislation for USDA was crafted that made many needed and important changes—without eviscerating those USDA programs that were effective and needed to help America's farmers and protected the public. The bill that ultimately became law made remarkable changes at USDA. Because of Chairman de la Garza's leadership and sage counsel the bill represented the right way to reinvent Government.

Throughout his 32-year career in Congress, Kika never lost sight of the folks back home. He fought tirelessly for his constituents. He also proved to be an able and effective advocate for American farmers. In no small measure because of his leadership, American agriculture remains the envy of the world.

Kika also is an amateur linguist and gourmet cook. On many occasions he conversed with foreign dignitaries in their native tongue. Personally, Kika is my friend. I am proud to sponsor this legislation.

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 994 to designate the U.S. border station located in Pharr, TX, as the "Kika de la Garza U.S. Border Station." I believe this is an appropriate way to honor Congressman de la Garza's many years of service to the United States and the State of Texas, during which he provided tremendous leadership in support of agriculture, economic growth of south Texas, improved relations with Mexico, a better quality of life for residents along the border, and many other issues.

I am honored to have had the opportunity to serve in Congress with Kika de la Garza, even if for only 2 of his 32 years in this body. He is an example to all of us of a true gentleman and public servant who brought honor to this House through the civility, respect, and commitment to doing what is right that he brought to conducting the people's business. He is also a true Texan who worked with his colleagues from both sides of the aisle to further the best interests of our State.

Congressman de la Garza is best remembered for his leadership on behalf of American agriculture. He served as chairman of the Agriculture Committee for a longer interrupted period than anyone else in history and presided over the drafting and successful enactment of three major omnibus farm bills, 1981, 1985, and 1990, that have reformed our Nation's agricultural policies. He also guided efforts to reduce the cost of agricultural programs through several deficit reduction bills that have been approved by Congress. His other legislative accomplishments include legislation to streamline the agricultural lending system, strengthen Federal pesticide laws, and various other measures to assist Amer-

ican agriculture, encourage rural development, and improve human nutrition.

Congressman de la Garza was also one of Congress' leading experts on United States-Mexico relations and a proponent of greater trade with Mexico. In 1966, he became the first Member of Congress from the Texas-Mexico border area to serve on the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group, which promotes dialog between legislators from the two countries. He was an early congressional supporter of opening negotiations with Mexico to develop a free trade agreement and helped rally congressional support that led to approval of the North American Free Trade Agreement [NAFTA].

Throughout his career, Kika de la Garza also fought for Government policies that fostered better living and economic conditions for all Americans but particularly in south Texas. He obtained Federal funds to provide much-needed water and sewer services to Texas' impoverished colonias. He was a strong supporter of civil rights for all Americans, better educational opportunities, and improved access to health care for the elderly, veterans, and low-income individuals. He also supported policies to improve the Nation's infrastructure and maintain a strong, cost-effective national defense.

Our entire Nation benefited from Kika de la Garza's service in Congress, and his legacy includes an agricultural system that continues to lead and feed the world, better relations and expanded trade with Mexico and other nations, and a better quality of life for many Texans and Americans. I am pleased to join my colleagues in honoring Kika de la Garza and in urging approval of this legislation to designate the Kika de la Garza United States Border Station.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon in support of H.R. 994, legislation designating the Kika de la Garza U.S. Border Station in honor of our former Democratic colleague from my home State of Texas. This legislation is a fitting honor to a great legislator.

Born in 1927, Kika de la Garza is currently husband to Lucille and the father of three children. He attended Edinburg Junior College, received his law degree from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, TX, and practiced law in southern Texas. De la Garza was a U.S. artillery officer in Korea.

Former Representative de la Garza began his career in public service as a six-term Member of the Texas House of Representatives. In 1964, he was elected by the people of the 15th Congressional District of Texas to represent them in the U.S. House of Representatives. After 32 years of service de la Garza retired from public office in December 1996.

A member of the House Agriculture Committee beginning in 1965, Representatives de la Garza served as chairman of the committee from 1981 to 1994. In that role Representatives de la Garza was a true friend of agriculture. He was a strong supporter of the agriculture industry and cast many deciding votes for the industry over the years. He will be remembered for his faithful commitment to farmers, ranchers, and U.S. agricultural industry. Representative de la Garza's accomplishments during his career included support of farm legislation, an overhaul of the agricultural lending system, and reform in Federal crop insurance and pesticide law.

Representative de la Garza was also a friend to the citizens of the State of Texas. He will be remembered for his steadfast dedication and outstanding leadership in support of better living and economic conditions, and for his ardent support of the educational research and extension activities of Texas universities.

I would like to offer the leadership of both parties my thanks for bringing this measure before the House for consideration. It is a fitting tribute to one of our former leaders. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this legislation.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the designation of the Kika de la Garza U.S. Border Station. Representative de la Garza has duly earned this honor for the dedication he has demonstrated not only to the people of Texas but to the entire agricultural community of our Nation for the last 33 years.

Kika de la Garza started humbly. His first job was as a shoeshine boy on the streets of McAllen. His hard word and dedication earned him a seat in the Texas House of Representatives in 1953, where he served until 1965. He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1964 and served with us for 16 consecutive terms.

In 1982, he became chairman of the House Agriculture Committee and served in this position for 14 years.

During that period he has shown selfless dedication to the people of our Nation who earned their livelihood from the land and who grow food for all of us. He has focused the spotlight on important issues such as drought relief, pesticide use, and land preservation. Due to his efforts, he made the Agriculture Committee one of the least partisan in the House.

Accordingly, I strongly urge my colleagues to join with me in support of the designation of the Kika de la Garza U.S. Border House. It is rare to honor someone who is so deserving of this kind of accolade.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, I urge the adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. KIM] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 994.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 994.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

RONALD H. BROWN FEDERAL BUILDING

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R.